

MA COMMUNICATION DESIGN AT FALMOUTH

WELCOME TO MA COMMUNICATION DESIGN AT FALMOUTH.

Your offer

Please remember that if you have been made a conditional offer to study at Falmouth, your place is subject to meeting those conditions. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Admissions team on 01326 213730 or admissions@falmouth.ac.uk.

First week of term

Your first day of attendance will be **Monday 19 September 2016**. Please report to your introductory meeting in the **MA Communication Design Studio**, in the School's building at **10am**. This is at the lower end of the Falmouth Campus.

You can download a copy of the [Falmouth Campus map](#) from the Contact page of our website [here](#).

Your first week at Falmouth will cover various inductions as you get used to the campus and facilities. We'll also be getting going straight away with course introductions and project briefings, in addition to social activities. You will also be given course outlines and further timetable detail.

MyTimetable

<https://mytimetable.falmouth.ac.uk/> available from 1 September 2016

This is the link to MyTimetable, your online academic calendar which shows all scheduled learning activities and your course timetable. It will be available from 1 September 2016, however, timetables can be subject to change. To keep up to date, we recommend that you export the feed to your chosen device (mobile, tablet, laptop or desktop). An induction will be offered on the use of MyTimetable during freshers' week. Students will have access to their individual student timetables, where appropriate, once they have completed their online enrolment and IT induction.

Pre-course preparation

Project

Essential

There are two essential requirements we would like you to complete before coming. Firstly you should sharpen up your proposal in the form of an A4 written summary. This may be a development of what you have already submitted as part of your application to the course. This forms a catalyst for your next steps, and will also help inform initial tutorials.

Secondly, we would like you to prepare a five-minute presentation of your creative story to date, how you work and your creative process. This can be digital or you could use objects or

print-outs; it's really up to you. This will be shared with other students in the first couple of days of the course.

Reading

Optional

Over the summer you should begin to consider the postgraduate journey ahead of you. This can centre on the specific detail of your own interests and initial focus point for the MA, but also look more broadly at the cultural, political and societal changes that are affecting the subject.

Keep up to date with national and international news and look to build knowledge in your particular area of interest. Equally, you should keep abreast of more general developments in the creative industries and the arts, through the reading of publications and blogs. We have a good collection of journals at Falmouth for when you arrive but should you wish to buy any beforehand, allow between £5 and £10 per copy. Examples of these include *Creative Review*, *AdBusters*, *Idea*, *Communication Arts*, *Eye*. Online you will find *itsnicethat*, *designweek*, *dezeen*, *grafik*, *dieline*, *dandad*, *aiga*, *designcouncil*, *artscouncil*, *craftscouncil* and *ico-d* to be useful.

Exhibitions & events

Optional

Leading up to the start of the course, we would also recommend you visit any exhibitions, conferences or creative events that maybe near you.

Tuition fees (per year)

2016-17 full-time UK/EU: £6,500

2016-17 full-time International: £15,000

During your course

Reading list and costs

All of the books for the course are available in the University Library or can be found new/used online. You may wish to buy certain books, and should allow up to £300 for this.

Essential

Laurel, B (Ed)., 2003. *Design research: methods and perspective*. MIT, Netherlands. RRP £26.

Price, J. Yates, D., 2015. *Communication design: insights from the creative industries*.

Bloomsbury, London. RRP £27.

Optional

Brook, T. Shaughnessy, A., 2009. *Studio culture: the secret life of the graphic design studio*. Unit Editions, London. RRP £20.

Bowell. T. Kemp, G., 2010. *Critical thinking: a concise guide*. Routledge, London. RRP £23.

Collins, H., 2010. *Creative research; the theory & practice of research for the creative industries*. AVA. RRP £30.

De Bono, E., 2009. *Lateral thinking: a textbook of creativity*. Penguin, London. RRP £10.

Fletcher, A., 2001. *The art of looking sideways*. Phaidon, London. RRP £20.

Robson, C., 2002. *Real world research: a resource for social scientists and practitioner-*

researchers. Blackwell Publishers, Oxford. RRP £46.

Materials and equipment list and costs

Essential

We would expect you to arrive with all the usual studio kit. You should allow at least £200 for the studio kit outlined below:

- 2016/17 academic year diary.
- A3 layout pads or sketchbooks.
- Scalpel and blades such as Swan Morten (10a blades most useful).
- 12 inch plastic ruler.
- 12 inch metal ruler.
- Selection of graphite pencils (3B to HB).
- Retractable pencil (basic).
- Pritt Stick.
- Masking tape.
- Plastic eraser.
- Glue (spray mount/PVA).
- Fine line pens (black, red, blue).
- Memory stick (USB).

You may also need to allow for other 'making' costs, which would be dependent on the development of your particular MA project interests. Therefore, whether making films, printing books, objects, digital interfaces or prints, you might need further finance of between £100 - £500.

Optional

If you own a 35mm SLR or digital camera, you will find this useful. Falmouth also has photographic equipment which can be booked for free. If you wished to purchase your own camera, the approximate costs can be between £300 and £1000 plus, depending on your preference for camera choice.

A laptop is piece of equipment most students use on a regular basis. The industry standard is Apple Mac, with software including Adobe Creative Cloud, InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop and After Effects. This is likely to be one of the bigger investments you will make whilst studying communication design. The University has IT suites available at both the Falmouth and Penryn campus, with laptops available on short term loan. The Graphic Design Studios also have a small number of computers in them. However, if you wish to purchase your own, expect to pay between £300 and £1000 for the computer and around £200 for software.

Exhibitions & events

Optional

During the course of your study, you may also wish to make independent visits in your spare time to key exhibitions in the UK. There are some that occur in Cornwall, in which case costs will be minor (up to £20 for local transport and admission), but if you wish to travel to London or further afield, you may need to allow up to £250 for accommodation and travel expenses. You could spend up to £500 on more regular visits to national or European events; however, this is not a core requirement of the course and is at an individual student's discretion.

Study trips and costs

Essential

The key essential cost associated with the course is for the three-day Interim London show that occurs in the final semester. Costs associated are dependent on your own preference for travel and accommodation; whether staying with friends, or in hotel or hostel accommodation. Therefore allow between £100 and £400 pounds as an approximate guide for this.

Optional

Potentially we may run a three- to four-day study visit to London or another European city, which will be in the first or second study blocks. If this takes place, costs would be in the vicinity of between £200 and £400 for transport and accommodation.

Enrolment and Student Terms & Conditions

You will receive an email two weeks prior to the start of term with details of how to enrol online. All students must enrol online before the first day of term in order to be officially registered as a student of Falmouth University. If you plan to receive an undergraduate student loan, you must enrol to have your money released to you.

As part of your enrolment, you will be required to agree to and comply with the University's Student Terms & Conditions. These Terms & Conditions are important and we encourage you to read them carefully, prior to enrolling online. They can be found on our Regulations, Policies and Procedures web page under 'Student Terms & Conditions' [here](#).

During the coming weeks, you will be emailed important information for new students. If you will be away, please ask someone else to check your emails regularly and reply on your behalf.

We know that there's a lot to do to prepare before the start of your course. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to call our Admissions team for advice on 01326 213730 or email admissions@falmouth.ac.uk.

If you would like to download and print a copy of this email, please go to www.falmouth.ac.uk/new-students/welcome-letters.

Finally, we wish you an enjoyable and creative time before the course starts and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours sincerely

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